

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Columbia

United States of America

v.

Michael Gareth Adams

Case No. 21-mj-386

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of January 6, 2021 in the county of _____ in the
 _____ in the District of Columbia, the defendant(s) violated:

*Code Section**Offense Description*

18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) - Knowingly Entering or Remaining in any Restricted Building or Grounds
 Without Lawful Authority,

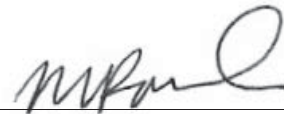
18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2) - Knowingly Engages in Disorderly or Disruptive Conduct in Restricted
 Building or Grounds,

40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) - Violent Entry and Disorderly Conduct on Capitol Grounds,

40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(G) - Violent Entry and Disorderly Conduct on Capitol Grounds.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See attached statement of facts.

☒ Continued on the attached sheet.


Complainant's signature

Madison K. Ramsden, Special Agent

Printed name and title

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1
 by telephone.

Date: 04/20/2021


2021.04.20

14:27:38 -04'00'

Judge's signature

City and state: Washington, D.C.

Zia M. Faruqui, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Your affiant, Madison Ramsden, is a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I am primarily assigned to investigate matters of national security. Currently, I am tasked with investigating criminal activity in and around the Capitol grounds on January 6, 2021. As a Special Agent, I am authorized by law or by a Government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detention, investigation, or prosecution of a violation of Federal criminal laws.

The U.S. Capitol is secured 24 hours a day by U.S. Capitol Police. Restrictions around the U.S. Capitol include permanent and temporary security barriers and posts manned by U.S. Capitol Police. Only authorized people with appropriate identification were allowed access inside the U.S. Capitol. On January 6, 2021, the exterior plaza of the U.S. Capitol was also closed to members of the public.

On January 6, 2021, a joint session of the United States Congress convened at the United States Capitol, which is located at First Street, SE, in Washington, D.C. During the joint session, elected members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate were meeting in separate chambers of the United States Capitol to certify the vote count of the Electoral College of the 2020 Presidential Election, which had taken place on November 3, 2020. The joint session began at approximately 1:00 p.m. Shortly thereafter, by approximately 1:30 p.m., the House and Senate adjourned to separate chambers to resolve a particular objection. Vice President Mike Pence was present and presiding, first in the joint session, and then in the Senate chamber.

As the proceedings continued in both the House and the Senate, and with Vice President Mike Pence present and presiding over the Senate, a large crowd gathered outside the U.S. Capitol. As noted above, temporary and permanent barricades were in place around the exterior of the U.S. Capitol building, and U.S. Capitol Police were present and attempting to keep the crowd away from the Capitol building and the proceedings underway inside.

At such time, the certification proceedings were still underway and the exterior doors and windows of the U.S. Capitol were locked or otherwise secured. Members of the U.S. Capitol Police attempted to maintain order and keep the crowd from entering the Capitol; however, shortly around 2:00 p.m., individuals in the crowd forced entry into the U.S. Capitol, including by breaking windows and by assaulting members of the U.S. Capitol Police, as others in the crowd encouraged and assisted those acts.

Shortly thereafter, at approximately 2:20 p.m. members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate, including the President of the Senate, Vice President Mike Pence, were instructed to—and did—evacuate the chambers. Accordingly, the joint session of the United States Congress was effectively suspended until shortly after 8:00 p.m. Vice President Pence remained in the United States Capitol from the time he was evacuated from the Senate Chamber until the sessions resumed.

During national news coverage of the aforementioned events, video footage which appeared to be captured on mobile devices of persons present on the scene depicted evidence of

violations of local and federal law, including scores of individuals inside the U.S. Capitol building without authority to be there, including Michael Adams as described below.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) is investigating Michael Adams (“ADAMS”) regarding his involvement in entering the U.S. Capitol building on January 6, 2021, and the investigation concerns possible violations of, *inter alia*, 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) & (2), and 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(C)(i),(D) & (G).

Witnesses: Since the events at the U.S. Capitol, the FBI has received information from Witness #1 - #3 regarding ADAMS’s potential involvement in entering the Capitol. Witness #1 - #3 had prior associations with ADAMS, including in-person contact and knowledge of his physical appearance.

1. **Witness #1:** On or about February 28, 2021, Witness #1 submitted an anonymous electronic tip to the FBI National Threat Operation Center, advising that Michael ADAMS told Witness #1 that he was one of the first persons that entered the Capitol building. According to Witness #1, ADAMS also showed some photographs located on his phone of the incident to Witness #1. Law enforcement subsequently interviewed Witness #1, who stated that ADAMS showed a video on his cellphone to Witness #1. The video recorded ADAMS and appeared to be recorded from inside the Capitol building and taken from his point of view.

2. **Witness #2:** Your affiant spoke with Witness #2, who stated that s/he had heard through other persons that ADAMS stated he was one of the first persons to enter the Capitol building on January 6, 2021. Witness #2 also stated that ADAMS drove an old blue station-wagon type vehicle with antique license plates, which was probably a Dodge or Oldsmobile model.

3. **Witness #3:** Your affiant spoke with Witness #3, who also stated that s/he heard through other persons that ADAMS entered the Capitol building on January 6, 2021. Witness #3 also stated that ADAMS drove an old blue station-wagon type vehicle with antique license plates.

Open source videos: Law enforcement reviewed several videos provided to the FBI by members of the public that recorded ADAMS in the restricted area surrounding the Capitol on January 6, 2021. In one video, ADAMS was recorded putting on a blue shirt and dark-colored jacket over a plaid shirt, with a red hat in his hand. ADAMS was carrying a flag in his left hand, while carrying a longboard with orange wheels in his right hand.



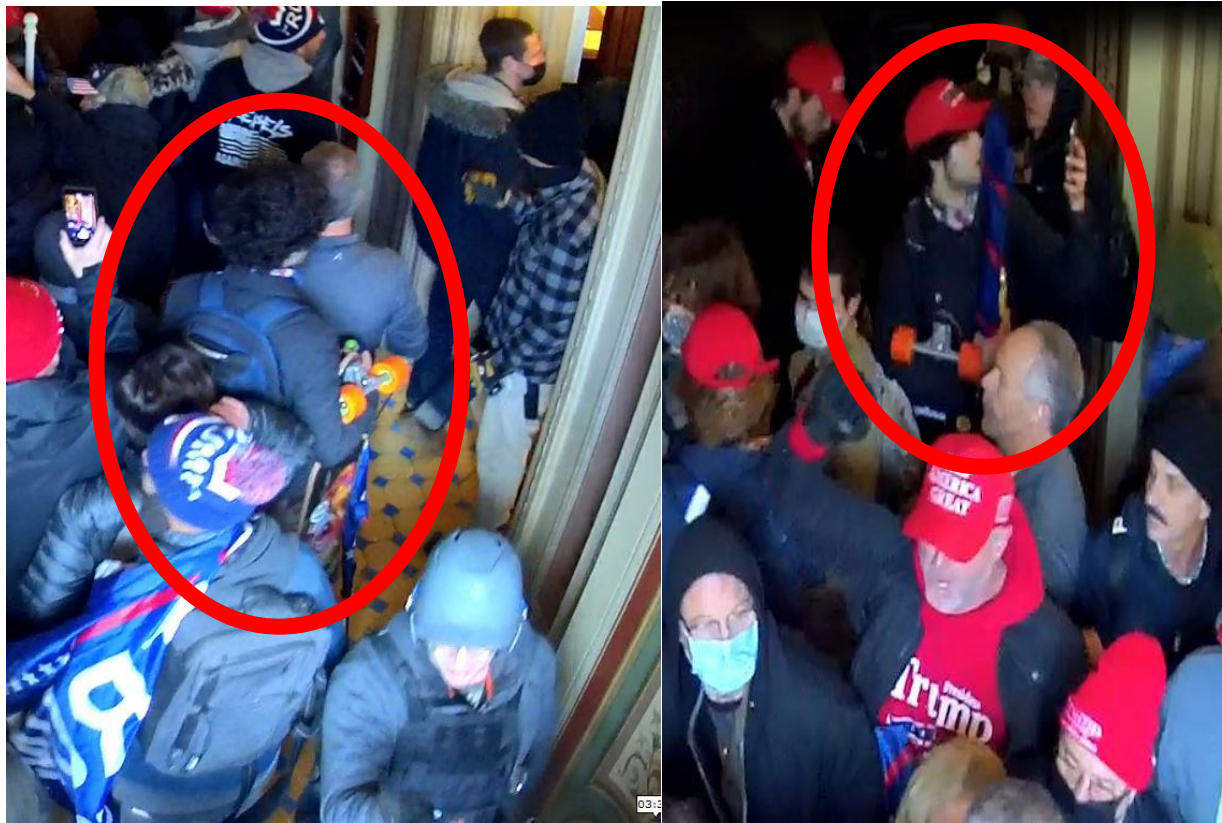
Open source video also recorded ADAMS outside the North door of the Capitol building, wearing a dark jacket, blue shirt with a plaid shirt visible underneath, red white and blue neckwear, while carrying a flag(s) and a longboard with orange wheels.

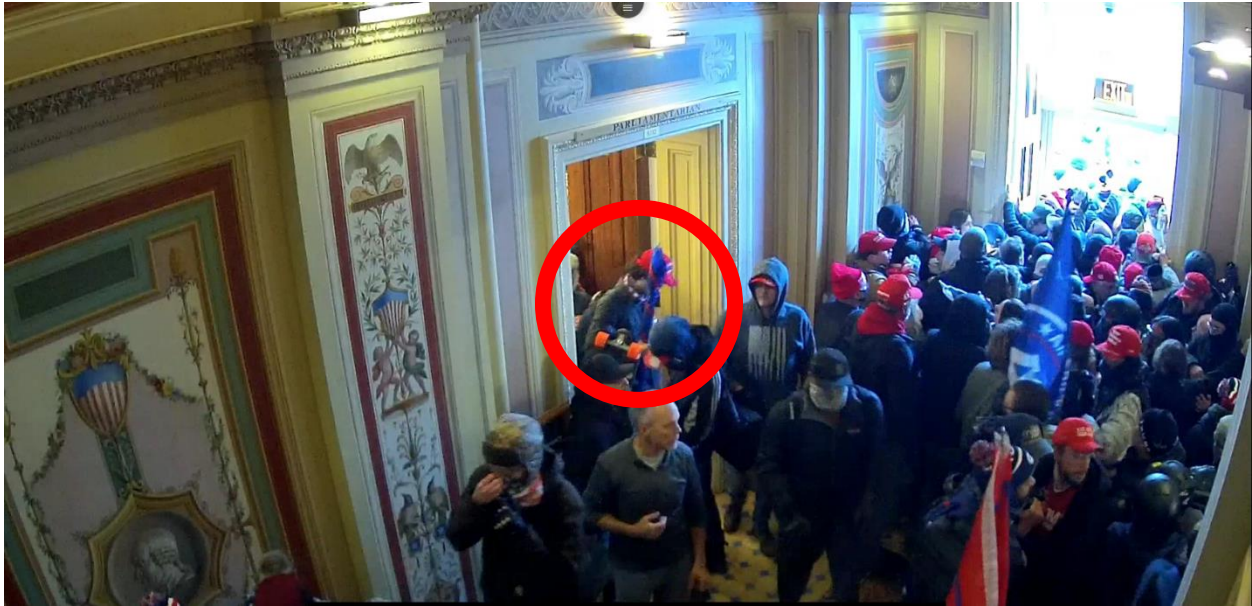


Capitol building video-surveillance footage: I reviewed security video-surveillance cameras from the interior of the Capitol building from January 6, 2021. At approximately 2:45 p.m., surveillance videos located in the interior of the Capitol building near the northwest door, recorded ADAMS entering the Capitol building. ADAMS was wearing a red hat, red white and blue neckwear, and a dark jacket, while carrying a longboard with orange wheels and a flag or flags (green markings on the original footage).

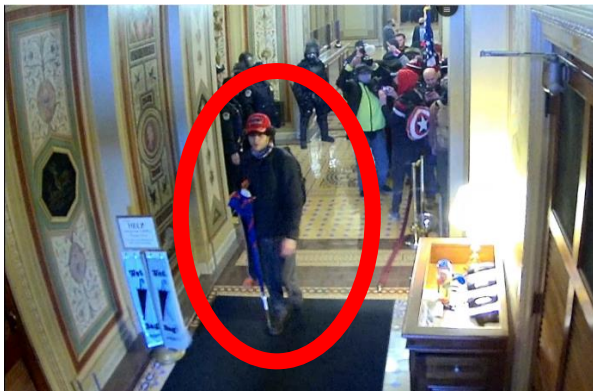


At approximately 2:46 p.m., ADAMS was recorded entering the parliamentarian's office near the northwest door of the Capitol building, carrying the longboard with orange wheels. At approximately 2:49 p.m., ADAMS was recorded leaving the office, still holding his longboard with orange wheels and in possession of a cellphone.





At approximately 2:59 p.m., the Capitol building video-surveillance cameras recorded ADAMS again in the north side of the Capitol building, specifically the Brumidi hallway, wearing a red hat, red white and blue neckwear, dark jacket, and carrying a longboard with orange wheels and a flag or flags.



Body-worn camera footage: Your affiant reviewed body-worn cameras worn by members of the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) standing outside the Capitol building on January 6, 2021. At approximately 4:21 p.m., ADAMS was recorded on police body camera. wearing the same clothing, initially without the red hat, and still carrying a longboard with orange wheels and two flags.





Geofence: Witness #1 stated that ADAMS' phone number was 571-484-0164, and at the time of his arrest on January 5, 2021, ADAMS' provided his cellphone number as 571-484-0164 to law enforcement. According to records obtained through a search warrant served on Google, a mobile device associated with 571-484-0164 was present at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. Google estimates device location using sources including GPS data and information about nearby Wi-Fi access points and Bluetooth beacons. This location data varies in its accuracy, depending on the source(s) of the data. As a result, Google assigns a "maps display radius" for each location data point. Thus, where Google estimates that its location data is accurate to within 10 meters, Google assigns a "maps display radius" of 10 meters to the location data point. Finally, Google reports that its "maps display radius" reflects the actual location of the covered device approximately 68% of the time. In this case, Google location data shows that a device associated with 571-484-0164 was within the U.S. Capitol from approximately 2:45 pm to 4:59 pm. Google records show that the "maps display radius" for this location data was approximately 100 feet, which encompasses an area that is partially within the U.S. Capitol Building.

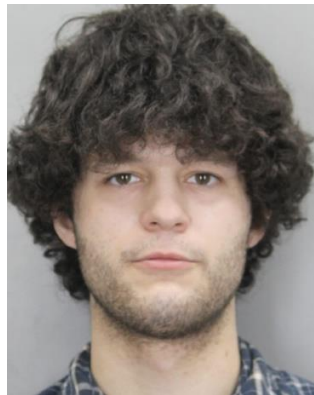
Identification: On March 22, 2021, law enforcement showed several screenshot photographs captured from the interior video-surveillance footage, including some of the above-mentioned photographs, to Witness #1-Witness #3 for identification purposes. Witness #1 stated that the person in the photographs looked like ADAMS, but could not be entirely certain because of the photo quality.

Witness #2 stated that s/he could not be certain if the person in the photographs was ADAMS because of the quality of the photos and because Witness #2 normally saw ADAMS wearing a mask. Witness #3 viewed the photo images, and believed that the person could be ADAMS and had a similar hairstyle, but could not be sure.

On March 29, 2021, law enforcement showed Witness #1 the above-mentioned screenshots from the open source videos, including some of the above-mentioned photographs, to Witness #1. Witness #1 viewed the photographs and stated that s/he was one hundred percent sure that it was ADAMS in the photographs. Witness #1 also noted that, after viewing the photographs on March

22nd, s/he later realized that s/he recognized the jacket in the photographs as the same jacket that Witness #1 had seen ADAMS wear in the past.

I have reviewed the previously-mentioned screenshots from the open sources videos, the MPD body-worn camera videos, and the Capitol building video-surveillance footage. I have also obtained a copy of ADAMS' driver's license that contained a photograph of ADAMS and a copy of ADAMS' booking photograph from January 5, 2021, which was not connected to the events of January 6, 2021 (see below):



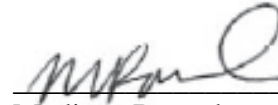
I compared the images from the screenshots and ADAMS' booking photo, and they appear visually to be the same person. In addition, based on the distinctive clothing, hairstyle, clothing and longboard with orange wheels, I believe the person identified by Witness #1 as ADAMS is the same person recorded inside the Capitol building on January 6, 2021.

Based on the foregoing, I submit that there is probable cause to believe that Michael ADAMS violated 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) and (2), which makes it a crime to (1) knowingly enter or remain in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do; and (2) knowingly, and with intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions, engage in disorderly or disruptive conduct in, or within such proximity to, any restricted building or grounds when, or so that, such conduct, in fact, impedes or disrupts the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions. For purposes of Section 1752 of Title 18, a "restricted building" includes a posted, cordoned off, or otherwise restricted area of a building or grounds where the President or other person protected by the Secret Service, including the Vice President, is or will be temporarily visiting; or any building or grounds so restricted in conjunction with an event designated as a special event of national significance.

I submit there is also probable cause to believe that Michael ADAMS violated 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) and (G), which makes it a crime to willfully and knowingly (D) utter loud, threatening, or abusive language, or engage in disorderly or disruptive conduct, at any place in the Grounds or in any of the Capitol Buildings with the intent to impede, disrupt, or disturb the orderly conduct of a session of Congress or either House of Congress, or the orderly conduct in that

building of a hearing before, or any deliberations of, a committee of Congress or either House of Congress; and (G) parade, demonstrate, or picket in any of the Capitol Buildings.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'MRamsden', is written over a horizontal line.

Madison Ramsden
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone, this 20th day of April, 2021.

ZIA M. FARUQUI,
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE